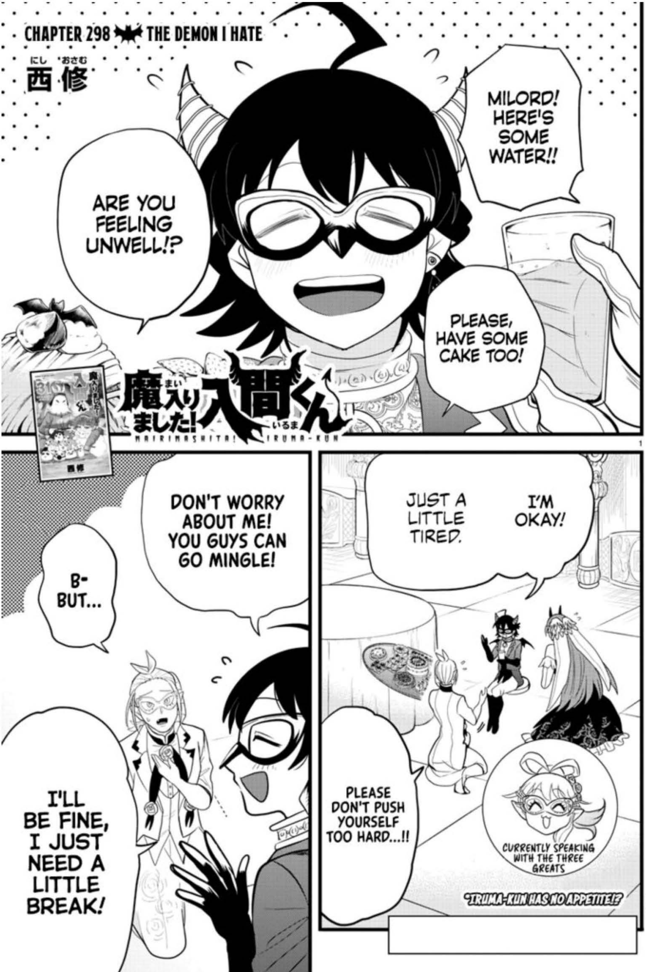
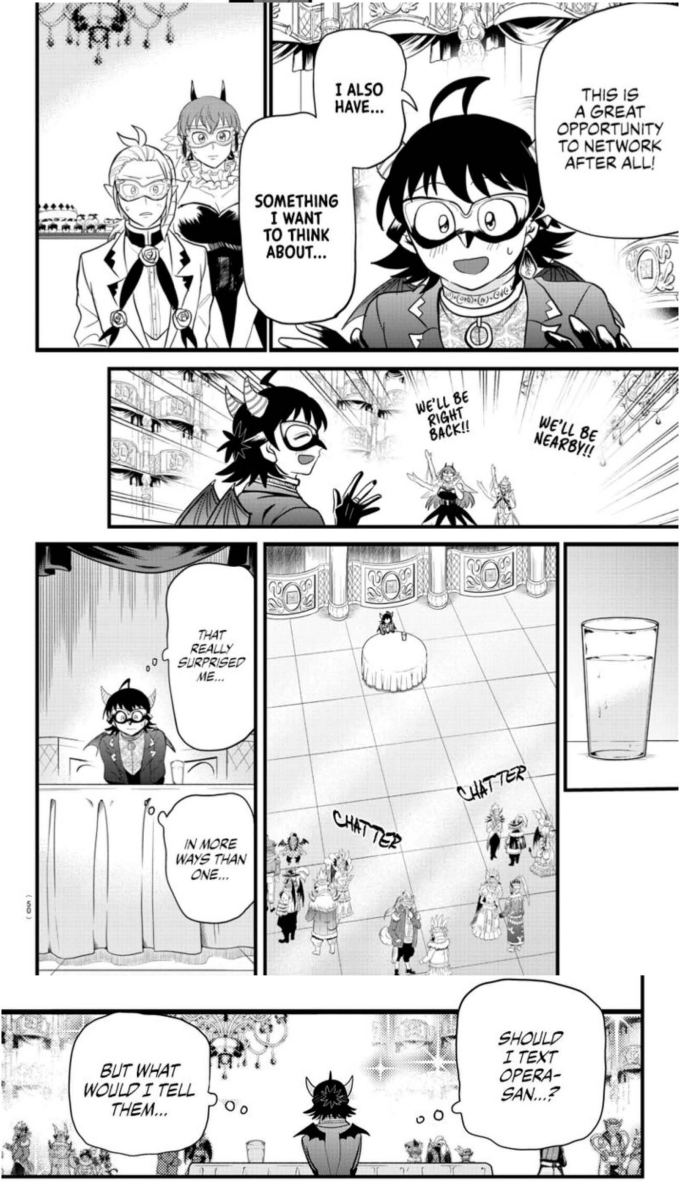
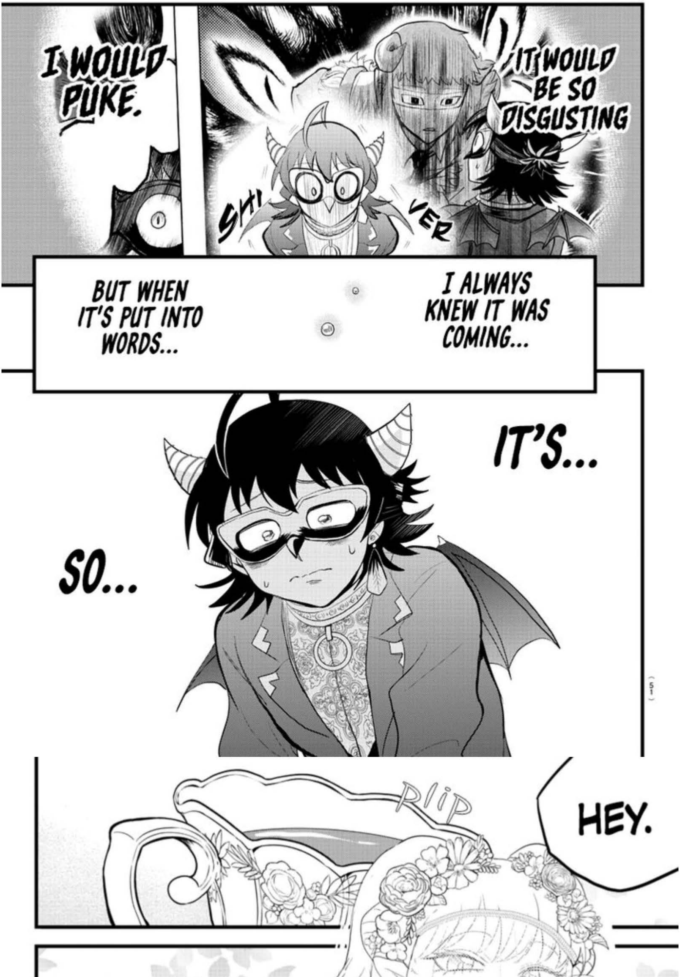
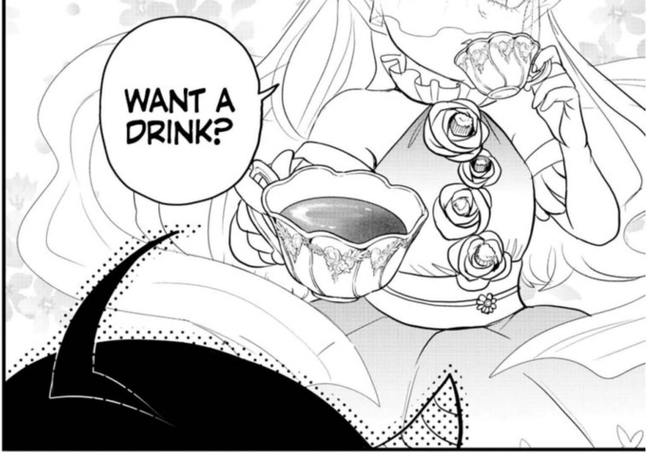
# CHAPTER 298 THE DEMON I HATE

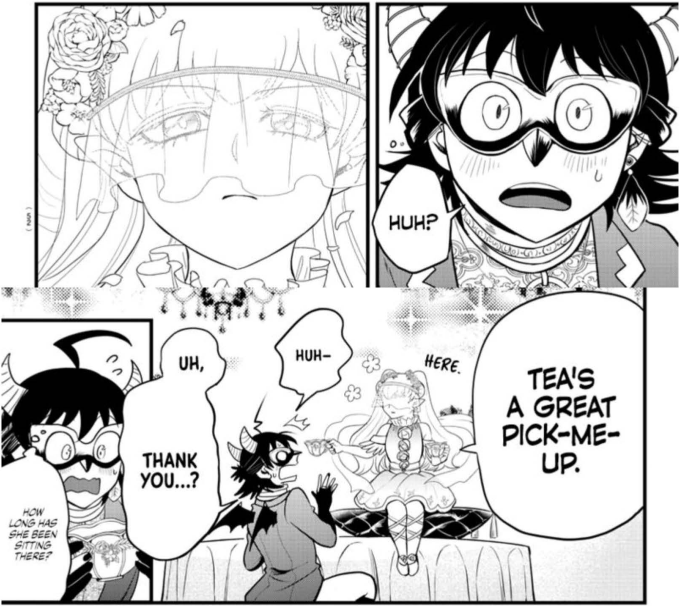
西修（にし おさむ）

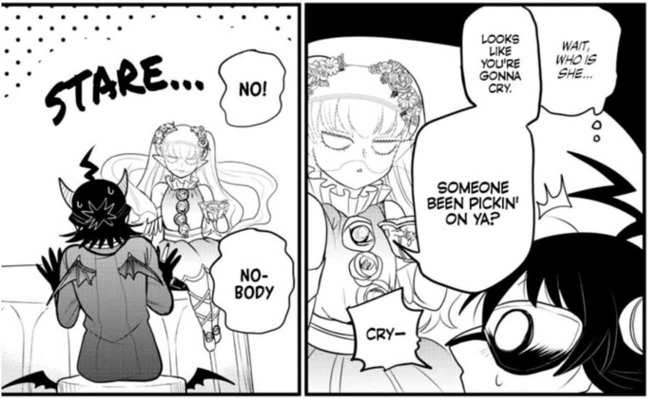

MILORD! HERE'S SOME WATER!!
ARE YOU FEELING UNWELL!?
PLEASE, HAVE SOME CAKE TOO!
魔入りました！入間くん
MAIRIMASHITA! IRUMA-KUN
I'M OKAY!
JUST A LITTLE TIRED.
PLEASE DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD...!!
CURRENTLY SPEAKING WITH THE THREE GREATS
"IRUMA-KUN HAS NO APPETITE!?"
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME! YOU GUYS CAN GO MINGLE!
B-BUT...
I'LL BE FINE, I JUST NEED A LITTLE BREAK!

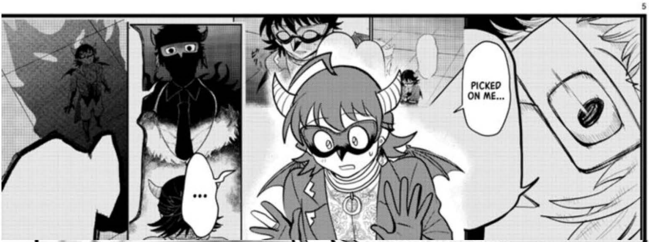

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO NETWORK AFTER ALL!
I ALSO HAVE...
SOMETHING I WANT TO THINK ABOUT...
WE'LL BE NEARBY!!
WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK!!
CHATTER
CHATTER
THAT REALLY SURPRISED ME...
IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE...
SHOULD I TEXT OPERA-SAN...?
BUT WHAT WOULD I TELL THEM...

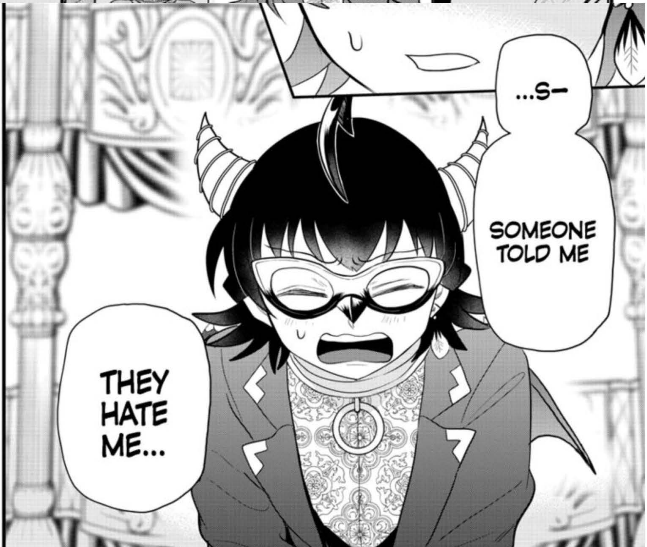

IT WOULD BE SO DISGUSTING
SHIVER
I WOULD PUKE.
I ALWAYS KNEW IT WAS COMING...
BUT WHEN IT'S PUT INTO WORDS...
IT'S...
SO...
HEY.
DRIP

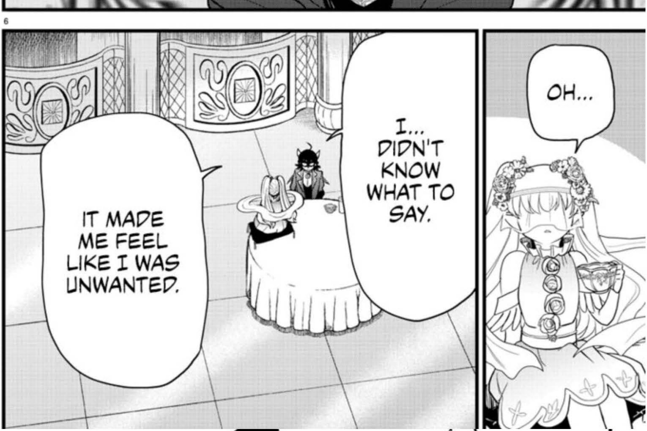

WANT A DRINK?

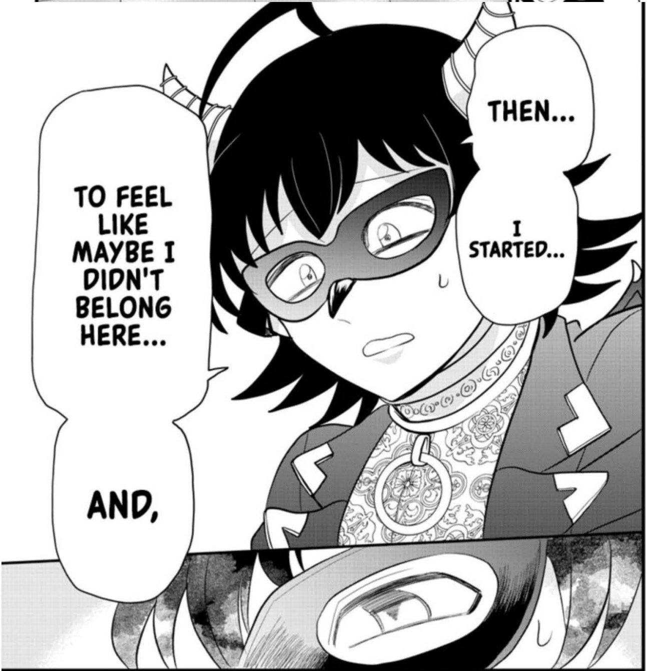

HUH?
TEA'S A GREAT PICK-ME-UP.
HERE.
HUH-
UH,
THANK YOU...?
HOW LONG HAS SHE BEEN SITTING THERE?

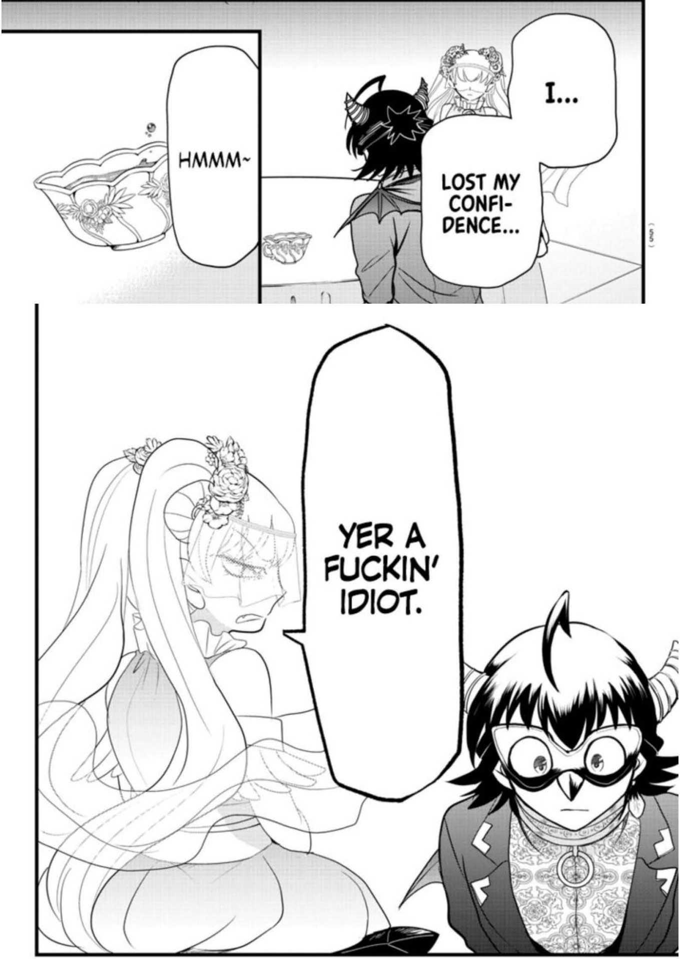

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GONNA CRY.
WAIT, WHO IS SHE...
SOMEONE BEEN PICKIN' ON YA?
CRY–
STARE...
NO!
NO-BODY

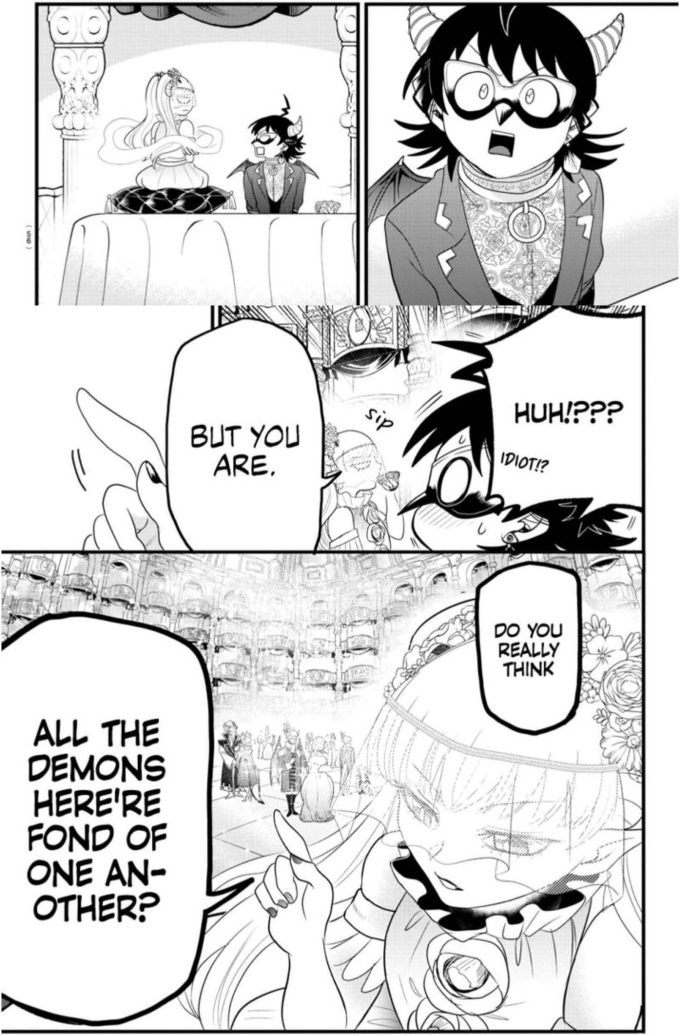

PICKED ON ME...
...

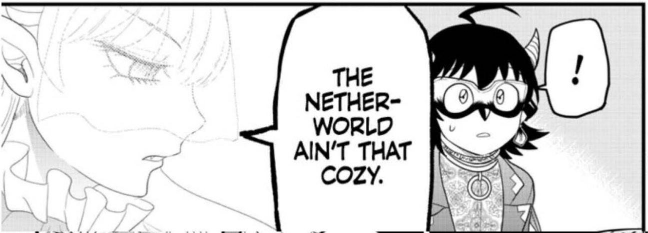

...S–
SOMEONE TOLD ME
THEY HATE ME...

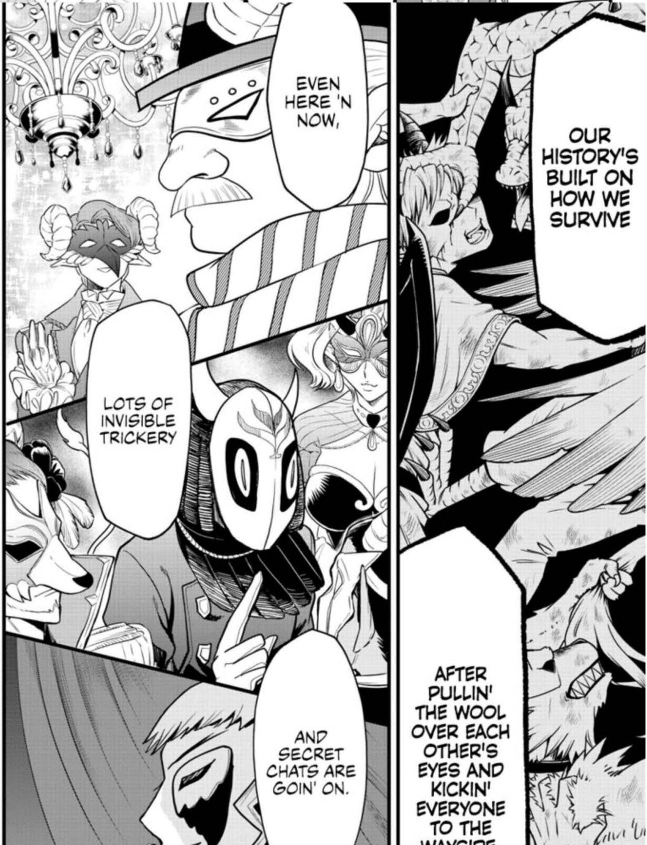

OH...
I... DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
IT MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WAS UNWANTED.

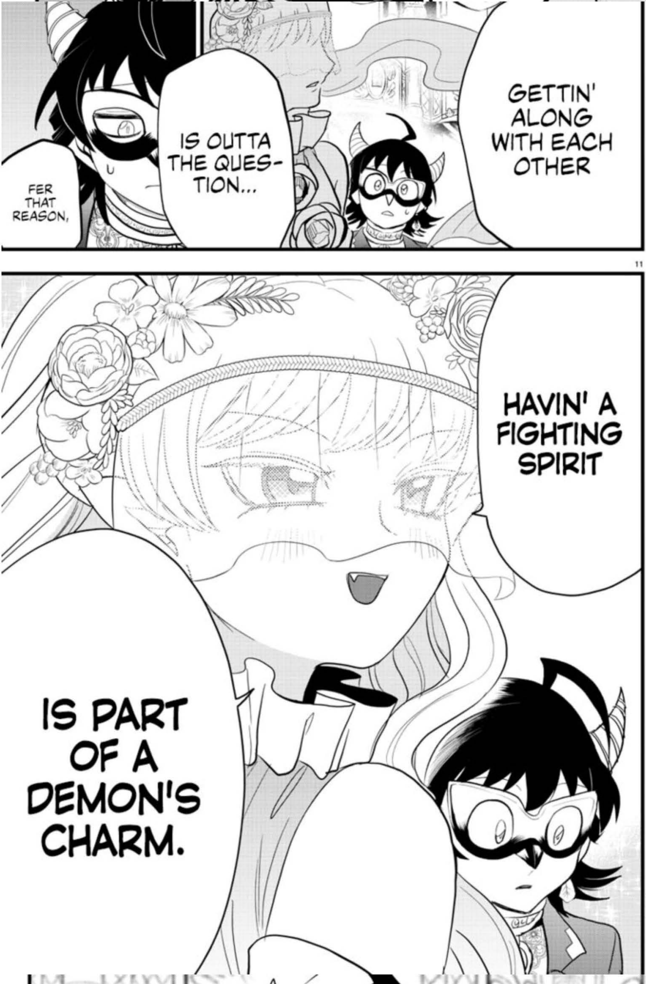

THEN...
I STARTED...
TO FEEL LIKE MAYBE I DIDN'T BELONG HERE...
AND,

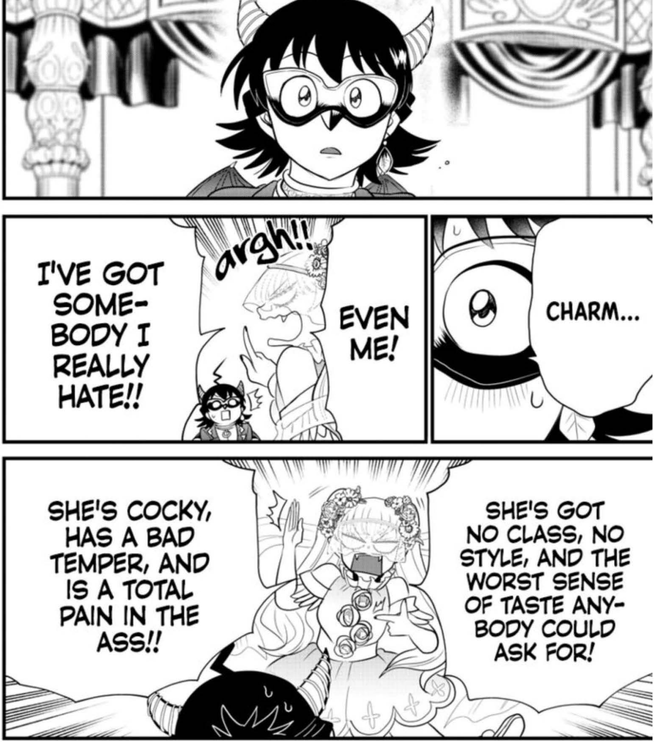

I...
LOST MY CONFIDENCE...
HMMM~
YER A FUCKIN' IDIOT.

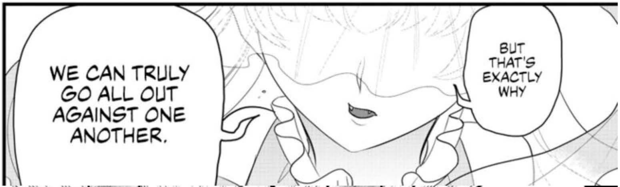

HUH!???
IDIOT!?
sip
BUT YOU ARE.
DO YOU REALLY THINK
ALL THE DEMONS HERE'RE FOND OF ONE AN-OTHER?

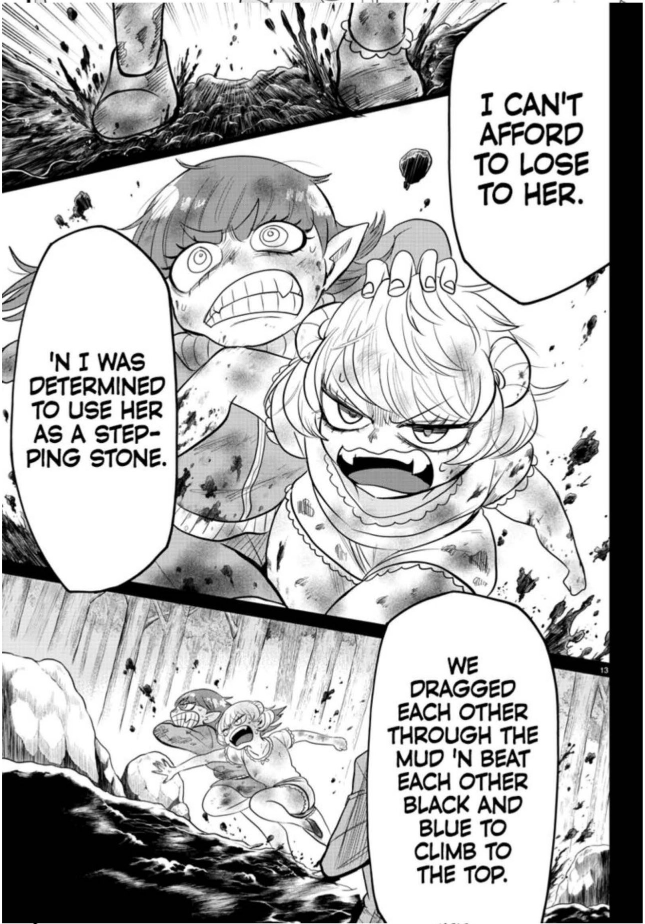

!
THE NETHER-WORLD AIN'T THAT COZY.

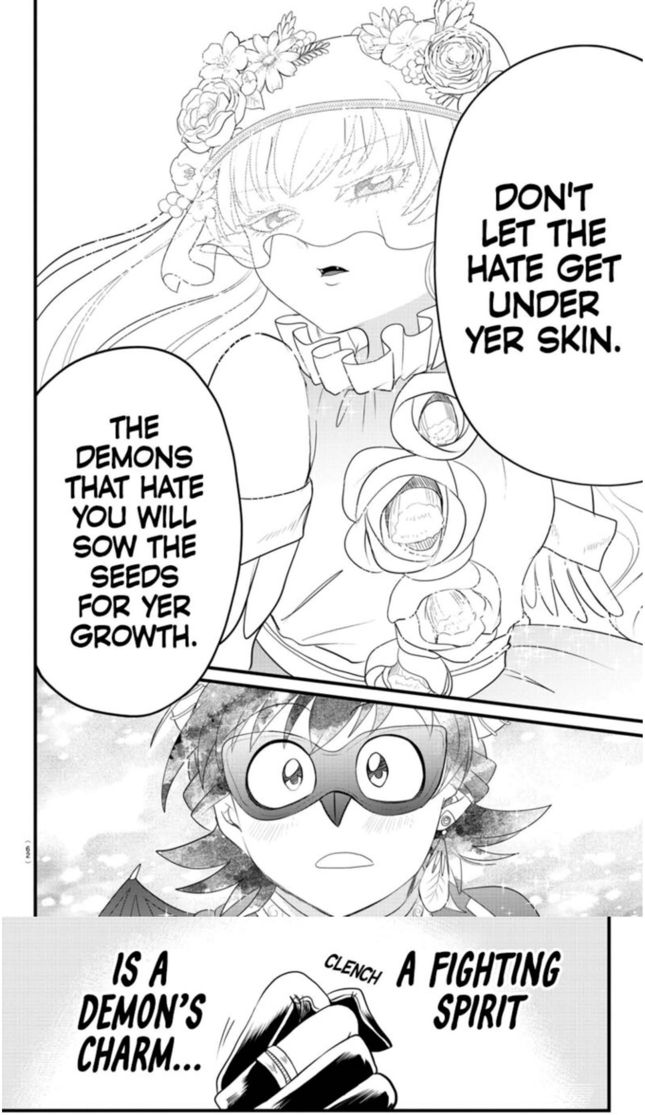

OUR HISTORY'S BUILT ON HOW WE SURVIVE
AFTER PULLIN' THE WOOL OVER EACH OTHER'S EYES AND KICKIN' EVERYONE TO THE WAYSIDE.
EVEN HERE 'N NOW,
LOTS OF INVISIBLE TRICKERY
AND SECRET CHATS ARE GOIN' ON.

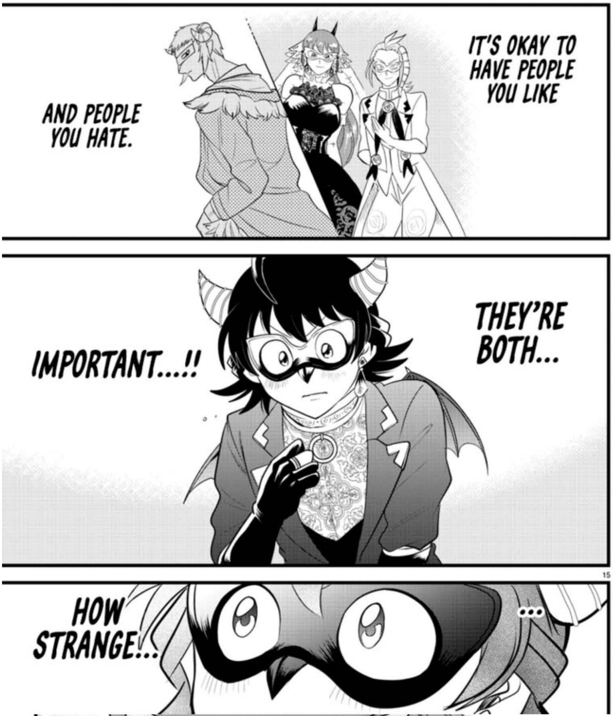

GETTIN' ALONG WITH EACH OTHER
IS OUTTA THE QUES-TION...
FER THAT REASON,
HAVIN' A FIGHTING SPIRIT
IS PART OF A DEMON'S CHARM.

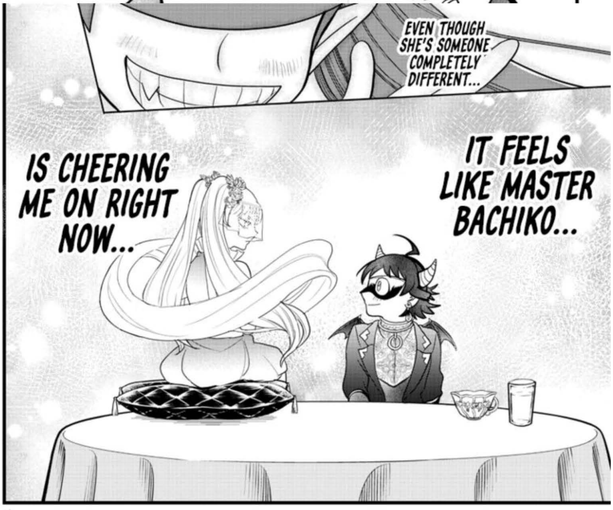

CHARM...
EVEN ME!
argh!!
I'VE GOT SOMEBODY I REALLY HATE!!
SHE'S GOT NO CLASS, NO STYLE, AND THE WORST SENSE OF TASTE ANYBODY COULD ASK FOR!
SHE'S COCKY, HAS A BAD TEMPER, AND IS A TOTAL PAIN IN THE ASS!!

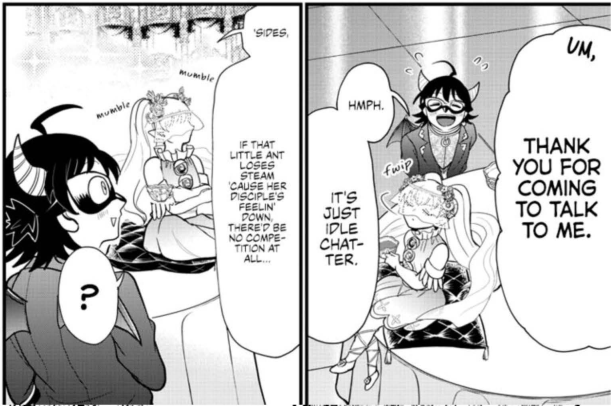

BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHY
WE CAN TRULY GO ALL OUT AGAINST ONE ANOTHER.

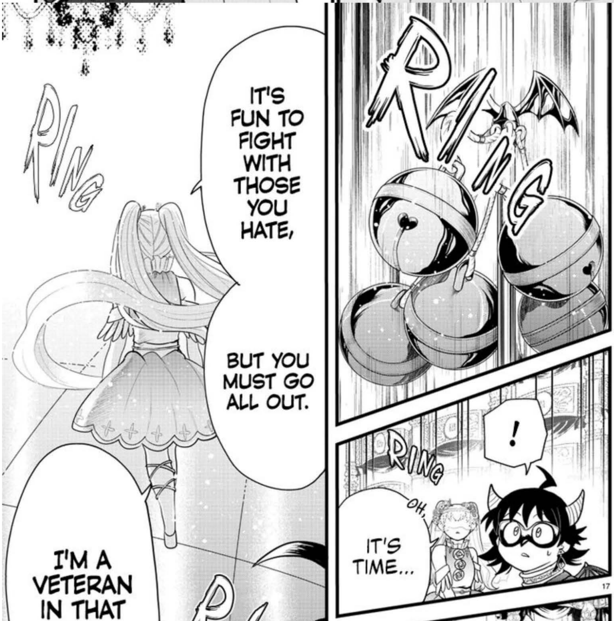

I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE TO HER.
'N I WAS DETERMINED TO USE HER AS A STEPPING STONE.
WE DRAGGED EACH OTHER THROUGH THE MUD 'N BEAT EACH OTHER BLACK AND BLUE TO CLIMB TO THE TOP.

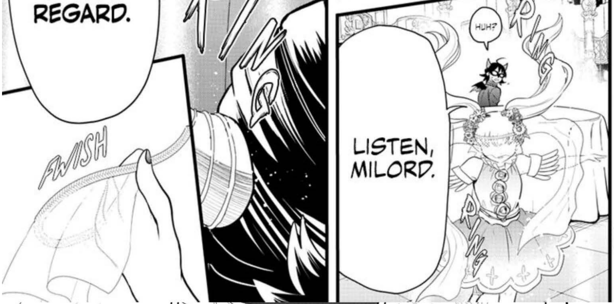

DON'T LET THE HATE GET UNDER YER SKIN.
THE DEMONS THAT HATE YOU WILL SOW THE SEEDS FOR YER GROWTH.
A FIGHTING SPIRIT
CLENCH
IS A DEMON'S CHARM...

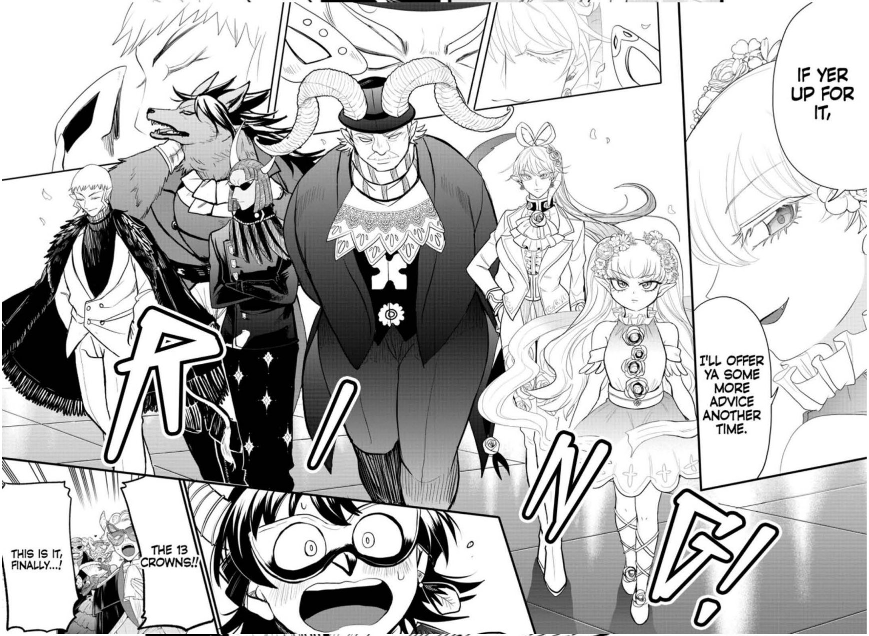

IT'S OKAY TO HAVE PEOPLE YOU LIKE
AND PEOPLE YOU HATE.
THEY'RE BOTH...
IMPORTANT...!!
...
HOW STRANGE...

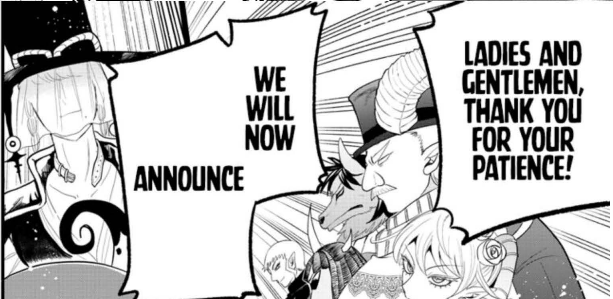

EVEN THOUGH SHE'S SOMEONE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...
IT FEELS LIKE MASTER BACHIKO...
IS CHEERING ME ON RIGHT NOW...

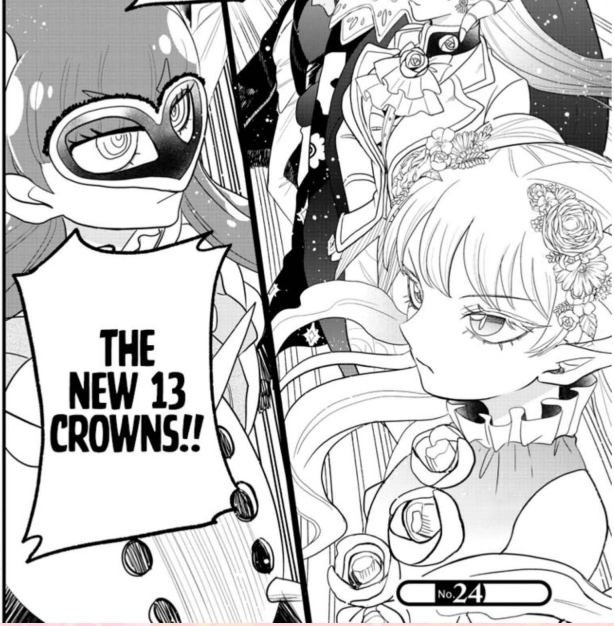

UM,
THANK YOU FOR COMING TO TALK TO ME.
HMPH.
fwip
IT'S JUST IDLE CHATTER.
'SIDES,
mumble
mumble
IF THAT LITTLE ANT LOSES STEAM 'CAUSE HER DISCIPLE'S FEELIN' DOWN, THERE'D BE NO COMPETITION AT ALL...
?

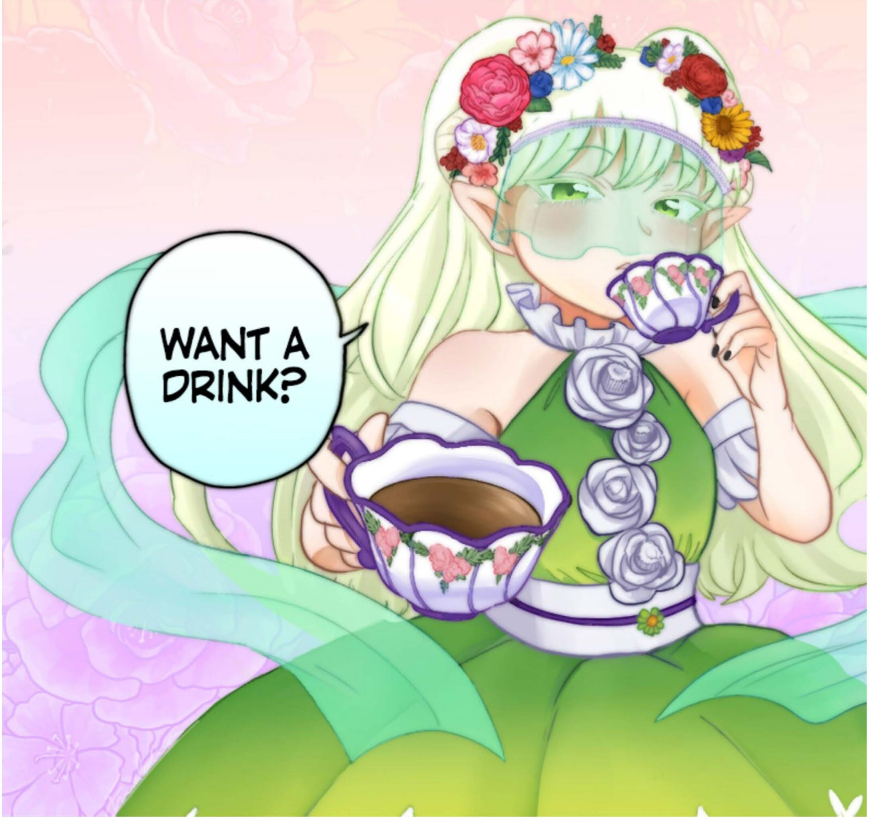

RING
IT'S FUN TO FIGHT WITH THOSE YOU HATE,
BUT YOU MUST GO ALL OUT.
I'M A VETERAN IN THAT
RING
RING
!
RING
OH,
IT'S TIME...


HUH?
RING
RING
LISTEN, MILORD.
RING
FWISH
REGARD.


IF YER UP FOR IT,
I'LL OFFER YA SOME MORE ADVICE ANOTHER TIME.
RING!
THE 13 CROWNS!!
THIS IS IT, FINALLY...!


LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE!
WE WILL NOW ANNOUNCE


THE NEW 13 CROWNS!!
No.24


WANT A DRINK?